

Welcome to
your Parish Church
in the Diocese of Birmingham



Sensory over-load

Palm Sunday Holy Communion 2nd April 2023

We begin our Journey through Holy Week with St John's Gospel as our guide. If you worship at home, you might open a window or spend some time outside as most of the action happens out of doors. Find some material with which you could improvise and make a cross. Have ready some food and drink in the usual way, to consume at the time of Communion. You might light a candle.

We Gather in the Cafe

SONG [Christ's is the world](#)

1. Christ's is the world in which we move,
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love,
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,
and Christ is the one who meets us here.

*To the lost Christ shows his face;
to the unloved he gives his embrace;
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes with his friends a touching place.*

2. Feel for the people we most avoid,
strange or bereaved or never employed;
feel for the women, and feel for the men
who fear that their living is all in vain.

3. Feel for the parents who've lost their child,
feel for the women whom men have defiled,
feel for the baby for whom there's no breast,
and feel for the weary who find no rest.

4. Feel for the lives by life confused,
riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,
which longs to be pure but fears to begin.

*(words: John L Bell & Graham Maule;
music: Traditional Scottish melody, arr John L Bell & Graham Maule)*

Tenderness in Bethany

OPENING PRAYER

John 12:1-8

- Reader 1 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said,
- Reader 2 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?'
- Reader 1 (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said,
- Reader 3 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

We reflect on tenderness, who needs it and what inhibits it.

We anoint one another

We pray with the response:

Jesus, the resurrection and the life, receive our devotion
and restore us with your tender touch.

Jealousy in the Temple

John 12:9-11

- Reader 1 When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

We follow the cross, representing Jesus, outside and pause by the labyrinth.

Excitement in the Streets

John 12:12-15

Reader 4 The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting:

**All: 'Hosanna!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—
the King of Israel!'**

Reader 4 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:
'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.
Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!'

We sing We have a King who rides a donkey, during which any who wish to gallop or scoot around the labyrinth.

1. We have a King who rides a donkey, (x3)
and his name is Jesus.

*Jesus the King is risen, (x3)
early in the morning.*

2. Trees are waving a royal welcome, (x3)
for the King called Jesus.

3. We have a King who cares for people, (x3)
and his name is Jesus.

4. What shall we do with our life this morning? (x3)
Give it up in service!

(words: Fred Kaan; music: Traditional, arr Noel Rawsthorne)

Palm Crosses are given out.

We reflect on celebrity, what's good and bad about it.

Reader 5 Jesus our King comes in peace. The peace of God be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Reader 5: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We greet each other.

We pray with the response:

Jesus, servant king; king of peace:

Receive our devotion and humble us for service and peace making.

All glory, laud and honour

*All glory, laud and honour,
to thee, Redeemer King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.*

1. Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed one.

2. The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortals, joined with all things
created, make reply.

3. The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present.

4. To thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise:
to thee now high exalted
our melody we raise.

5. Thou didst accept their praises,
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious king.

*(words: 'Gloria, laus et honor' by St Theodulph of Orleans, trans John Mason Neale;
music: Melchior Teschner)*

We follow the cross into Church and take our seats.

Testimony in the crowd

John 12:16-19

Reader 4 His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, 'You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!'

We reflect on the dilemmas of those in power and leadership, and the power of crowd behaviour.

We pray with our Palm Crosses in hand, ending with the response:

Jesus, divider of opinion, provoker of admiration and jealousy
Receive our devotion, heal our resentments and embolden us to testify to your love.

We sing: [Lord, we come to ask your healing](#)

1. Lord, we come to ask your healing,
teach us of love;
all unspoken shame revealing,
teach us of love.

Take our selfish thoughts and actions,
petty feuds, divisive factions,
hear us now to you appealing,
teach us of love.

2. Soothe away our pain and sorrow,
hold us in love;
grace we cannot buy or borrow,
hold us in love.
Though we see but dark and danger,
though we spurn both friend and stranger,
though we often dread tomorrow,
hold us in love.

3. When the bread is raised and broken,
fill us with love;
words of consecration spoken,
fill us with love.
As our grateful prayers continue,
make the faith that we have in you
more than just an empty token,
fill us with love.

4. Help us live for one another,
bind us in love;
stranger, neighbour, father, mother –
bind us in love.
All are equal at your table,
through your Spirit make us able
to embrace as sister, brother,
bind us in love.

(words: Jean Holloway music: Traditional Welsh melody, arr Colin Hand)

Priest: With this bread that we bring
All: we shall remember Jesus.
With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.
We shall remember Jesus.

Priest: The Lord is here
All: His Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, maker of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.
You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.
He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

A bell is rung

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

A bell is rung

Send your Holy Spirit that this bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy gifts, make us one in Christ, our Risen Lord.

With your whole church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise, lifting our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy,
My heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words
You are holy, Lord.**

LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

Priest: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All: Though we are many, we are one body.
For we all share in one bread.**

All are welcome to come forward to receive communion. If you prefer not to receive but would like a prayer of blessing, just keep your hands at your sides.

For the sake of those allergic to gluten, we ask you to refrain from dipping wafers in the wine.

After all have received, we anticipate Holy Week ahead of us, then stand to pray for God's blessing.

THE BLESSING

God the Father, who so loved the world that he gave his only Son, bring you by faith to his eternal life.

Amen.

God the Son, who accepted the cup of sacrifice in obedience to the Father's will, keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit who strengthens us to suffer with Christ that we may share his glory, set your minds on life and peace.

Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

We share out instruments and sing: [You are the King of Glory](#) (sing twice)

You are the King of Glory, you are the Prince of Peace,
you are the Lord of heav'n and earth, you're the Son of Righteousness.
Angels bow down before you, worship and adore,
for you have the words of eternal life, you are Jesus Christ the Lord.
Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna to the King of kings!
Glory in the highest heaven, for Jesus the Messiah reigns.

(words & music: Mavis Ford)

Reader 1 Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ, Amen.



This order of service is
printed on sustainably sourced paper and will be recycled.



Hymns and Songs printed under CCL Licence No. 116429

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England
is copyright © the Archbishop's Council (2000)

All Saints Safeguarding and child protection coordinator is Mary Miles (0121 449 0851) - if you have any concerns or worries about children, young people or vulnerable adults and don't know what to do don't hesitate to contact me.

Photographs may occasionally be taken by an appointed person during services. They are to record our church's story and may be used for publicity. If you do not wish your picture or that of your child to be used, please speak to a Sidesperson or Churchwarden. We respectfully ask that others do not take photographs at Church without permission.

Evening Prayer this evening, 6.30pm